

in refusing to undertake it. They have accordingly commenced operations, and it is hoped that the copy may be produced ready for the press in about five years. Owing to the enormous increase in the number of scientific publications at the close of the last century, it is estimated that to complete the Catalogue and to subsidise a publisher for undertaking the printing and publication, he retaining the proceeds of the sale, will cost at least 12,000*l.*

The question now arises whether the funds of the Royal Society ought to continue to be burdened with any part of this expense. The activity and responsibilities of the Society have greatly increased in recent years, and it is much straitened by its inability to increase its expenditure, either on its own establishment or in other directions, owing to the incessant demands of the Catalogue. The Council consider that the time has now come for them to appeal to those who are in a position to afford substantial financial assistance, to enable them to complete this great undertaking without devoting any part of their funds, so sorely needed for other purposes, to this object. They are thankful to be able to announce that Dr. Ludwig Mond, F.R.S., has been so impressed with the importance of the Catalogue, with the necessity for producing the subject index of the scientific literature of the past century so far as possible in the same complete form as that adopted by the International Council for the literature of the present century, and with the justice of the view that the Royal Society ought for the future to be relieved of the cost of producing the Catalogue, that he has most generously added to his previous gift of 2000*l.* the munificent donation of 6000*l.*, payable in four annual instalments of 1500*l.*

The President and Council have also much pleasure in stating that Mr. Andrew Carnegie, fully appreciating the value of the Society's undertaking and the claims that it has on the liberality of those who, though not Fellows of the Society, are interested in the promotion of natural knowledge, has contributed the handsome sum of 1000*l.* towards its accomplishment. They venture to hope that others may be willing to contribute towards a fund to provide for the total cost of this national work.

November, 1902.

THE BERLIN TUBERCULOSIS CONGRESS.

THE Congress on Tuberculosis, which has recently concluded its sittings in Berlin, was instituted under the auspices of the Central International Organisation for the Prevention of Consumption, which is itself an outcome of the international congresses which have met during recent years in Paris, Berlin, Naples and London. An international association of this kind is to some extent a new departure and is not without political significance; its analogue may be found in the international systems at present existing for meteorological observations. Heretofore international co-operation against disease has been confined to sudden outbreaks of the more virulent epidemic maladies. It must be the sincere hope of every philanthropist that the result of this organisation may be the complete annihilation of one of the most potent and widespread causes of disease in existence.

The dissemination of tuberculosis was naturally one of the subjects which engaged the attention of the Congress. It is now recognised that tuberculosis is an infectious disease, and therefore that it is preventable. One of the chief sources of infection is the sputa of consumptive patients. In this connection much has been done recently to check the habit of indiscriminate spitting in public places. At the present time in Glasgow, Manchester, Liverpool and some other towns, it is a penal

offence to spit on the corporation tramcars, and the Glamorganshire County Council has made a bye-law to the effect that spitting on the floor of public carriages, churches or other public buildings is punishable by a fine not exceeding 5*l.*

Another point of interest brought to light by the Congress was the growth during recent years of provision for consumptive patients in sanatoria. This has occurred through new hospitals being built and old ones being enlarged. As a marked instance of the latter, the Mount Vernon Hospital at Hampstead may be quoted. Four years ago there was accommodation at this hospital for fifty patients; when the present building operations are complete there will be accommodation for two hundred and fifty. At the present time in the United Kingdom there are, however, only about 1000 beds for poor patients and about 1200 for paying patients.

The question of the compulsory notification of tuberculosis and the disinfection by the municipal authorities after deaths from tubercular disease was also discussed. The opinion seemed generally in favour of compulsory notification, which already exists in Norway. An interesting paper was read on the subject of dispensaries for consumptives, which have been founded in Belgium. They are supported by private societies with the aid of town councils. The patients receive food, coal, clothes, bedding, antiseptics, lodging disinfection every three months, and family washing every week.

Perhaps the most interesting item in the proceedings of the Congress was Prof. Koch's address upon the transmission of bovine tuberculosis to man. This authority maintains the thesis he enunciated in London last year, that the meat and milk of tuberculous cattle are very rarely, if ever, the sources of tuberculous infection to the human subject. In this connection Prof. Koch laid special emphasis on the fact that though for more than a year past he had received official reports of all tuberculous cases coming under the notice of the German hospitals and the professors of pathology at German universities, no undoubted case of primary tuberculous infection of the intestines had occurred. He also drew attention to the fact that most drastic measures would be required if the meat and milk of tuberculous cattle were condemned as food, and that such an action would cause a great increase in the price of these foods, which would be to the detriment of the community.

F. W. T.

ANTHROPOLOGY AND GOVERNMENT IN THE UGANDA PROTECTORATE.¹

IF the population of British East Africa, or even of the Uganda Protectorate only, can furnish as many anthropological problems as that of the little corner of the country between the north-eastern horn of Lake Victoria Nyanza and Mount Elgon, it is quite time that a scientific collection of the facts were commenced. Mr. Hobley's "Ethnological Survey" deals only with a district about 120 miles long by 60 or 70 miles wide. He enumerates within this area four distinct races, or at least peoples of four stocks, beside a number of miscellaneous tribes whose racial connections are at present unknown. It is obvious that with such a wealth of material a work of 95 imperial octavo pages must simply be of a preliminary character.

The only stocks with which the author attempts to deal in detail are the Bantu Kavirondo, interesting as being "practically the most northerly representatives of the Bantu race," the Ja-luo, a Nilotic people, and the Nandi and allied tribes, conjectured to be a mixture of

¹ "Eastern Uganda: an Ethnological Survey." By C. W. Hobley, Assoc. M.Inst.C.E., Sub-commissioner Uganda Protectorate. Occasional Papers, No. 1. (Published by the Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, 1902.) Price 10s.

Negroes of the Nile Valley and some Hamitic people. The information furnished was collected in the first instance for administrative purposes. It consequently relates chiefly to such matters as would come more directly under the notice of a British official in the early stages of the settlement of the country. Mr. Hobley has in regard to such matters been minute and careful in his

pebbles are not only put into the gourd, but thrown out like dice, and that the practitioner divines from their fall, as among the more southerly Bantu, what is the matter and what remedies, if any, are to be prescribed. Probably Mr. Hobley has never witnessed the ceremony but writes from imperfect information. Useful plates of the Ja-luo are provided, and a plate of three Masai

warriors. But nothing in the way of physical measurement has been attempted. Physical descriptions are vague, and evidence of race is chiefly made to rest on the deceptive basis of language. There is an excellent map of the district, showing the distribution of the various tribes. Vocabularies of several of the languages and grammatical observations are appended.

I have called attention to some of the deficiencies of this "Survey," not by any means for the purpose of finding fault, but in the hope that Mr. Hobley, who has commenced so well, will be induced to prosecute the work still further. Such investigations ought to have the most strenuous encouragement on the part of the administration, both for scientific purposes (to which no administration ought to be indifferent) and because everything that contributes to our knowledge of the people, their physical and mental capacities, their prejudices, customs and beliefs must make for good government. E. SIDNEY HARTLAND.

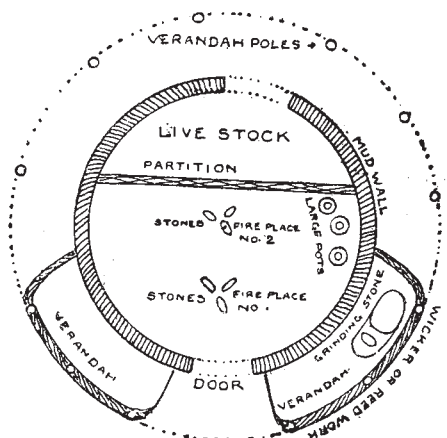


FIG. 1.—Plan of Kavirondo Hut.

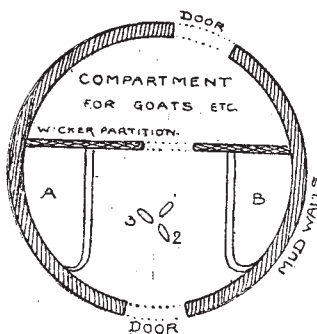


FIG. 2.—Plan of Nandi Hut.

inquiries. He has made an excellent beginning, though, as he himself says, "it would be presumptuous to suppose that [his] observations do more than touch the fringe of inquiry into the habits and customs of these interesting people." As examples of the painstaking manner in which he has collected his material, his plans of the Kavirondo and Nandi huts, and his figures, placed side by side, of the hoe (the principal agricultural implement of the continent) used by the Kavirondo and that used by the Nandi, may be referred to. By the courtesy of the Anthropological Institute we are enabled to reproduce these.

The externals of native life and the outline of their customs, especially the customs relating to marriage and married life, are most fully treated. But there is evidently much detail still to be ascertained, and the underlying beliefs call for inquiry. The social organisation is hardly touched. Mr. Hobley's use of the words *clan* and *tribe* lacks precision. Both words seem to be used territorially; the clan is a local subdivision of the tribe, under a subordinate chief. By anthropologists the word *clan* is now generally used to indicate blood-relationship, actual or imputed. It should be kept strictly for this purpose and some other word found for a village settlement or other local subdivision the inhabitants of which may or may not be held to be blood-brothers. The important subject of religion, so intimately connected with social organisation, is almost a blank. The details concerning divination by the entrails of animals slain (in sacrifice?) and concerning the ceremonies in making peace, however, are interesting and valuable. These are matters likely to have come frequently under the sub-commissioner's eye. On the other hand, he is not likely to have suffered much from the medical practice of the Kavirondo. Hence his account of it is not very illuminating. The anthropologist who reads that the old women who are called in "put pebbles in a gourd and rattle them, and then advise certain remedies," will suspect that the

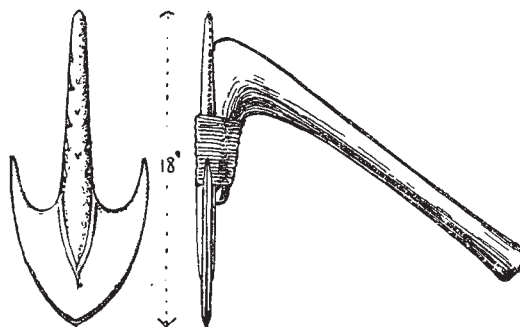


FIG. 3.—Kavirondo Hoe.

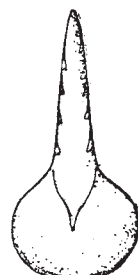


FIG. 4.—Nandi Hoe.

THE Lancaster Town Council has decided to confer the honorary freedom of the borough upon Mr. James Mansergh, F.R.S., past president of the Institution of Civil Engineers, who is a native of the borough.

LAST week the Bangor Eisteddfod Committee voted from its surplus a sum of 30*l.* to the University College of North Wales to assist in the development of the fisheries department.